

Committee Meetings

REVIEW IRAQI AGRICULTURE

Committee on Agriculture: Held a hearing to review Iraqi Agriculture: From Oil for Food to the Future of Iraqi Production Agriculture and Trade. Testimony was heard from William J. Garvelink, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator, Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance, U.S. Agency for International Development, Department of State; Joseph A. Christoff, Director, International Affairs and Trade, GAO; H. Lee Schatz, Special Counsel for Iraq Reconstruction, Office of the Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA; and public witnesses.

DEFENSE AND ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Ordered reported the following appropriations for fiscal year 2005: Defense and Energy and Water Development.

LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative approved for full Committee action the Legislative appropriations for fiscal year 2005.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction held a hearing on Army Budget Request. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Army: GEN Peter J. Schoomaker, USA, Chief of Staff; and Geoffrey G. Prosch, Acting Assistant Secretary (Installations and Environment).

IRAQ—STATUS OF U.S. FORCES AFTER JUNE 30TH

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on the status of U.S. forces in Iraq after June 30, 2004. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Peter Rodman, Assistant Secretary (International Security Affairs); and LTG Walter L. Sharp, USA, Director, Strategic Plans and Policy, Joint Chiefs of Staff; and Ambassador Francis J. Ricciardone, Coordinator for Iraq Transition, Department of State.

U.S.-CHINA ECONOMIC AND SECURITY REVIEW COMMISSION REPORT

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on the report of the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission: Roger W. Robinson, Jr., Chairman; and Carolyn Bartholomew, Commissioner.

COLLEGE ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Held a hearing entitled “H.R. 4283, College Access and Opportunity Act: Are Students at Proprietary Institutions Treated Equitably under Current Law?” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

NUCLEAR WASTE FUND—RECLASSIFY FEES PAID

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality approved for full Committee action, as amended, H.R. 3981, To reclassify fees paid into the Nuclear Waste Fund as offsetting collections.

OVERWEIGHT CHILDREN—HEALTH CONCERNS ABOUT DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Parents Be Aware: Health Concerns about Dietary Supplements for Overweight Children.” Testimony was heard from Howard Beales, Director, Bureau of Consumer Protection, FTC; Howell Wechsler, Acting Director, Division of Adolescent and School Health, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

FHA SINGLE FAMILY LOAN LIMIT ADJUSTMENT ACT

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity held a hearing on H.R. 4110, FHA Single Family Loan Limit Adjustment Act of 2004. Testimony was heard from John C. Weicher, Assistant Secretary, Housing/Federal Housing Commissioner, Department of Housing and Urban Development; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—TREASURY DEPARTMENT

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Department of the Treasury.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Treasury: Samuel W. Bodman, Deputy Secretary; William J. Fox, Director, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network; R. Richard Newcomb, Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control; Nancy J. Jardini, Chief, Criminal Investigation, IRS; and Dennis S. Schindel, Acting Inspector General.

OVERSIGHT—PRIVATE SECTOR CONSULTANTS AND FEDERAL MANAGEMENT

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Government Efficiency and Financial Management held an oversight hearing entitled “Private Sector

Consultants and Federal Management: More than Balancing the Books.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CASTRO’S CUBA—CONTINUED HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Human Rights and Wellness held a hearing entitled “Living in Fear: The Continued Human Rights Abuses in Castro’s Cuba.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of State: Michael Kozak, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor; Dan Fish, Deputy Assistant Secretary; and David Mutchler, Senior Advisor on Cuba, U.S. Agency for International Development; and public witnesses.

CYBER-CHALLENGES FACING HOME USERS AND SMALL BUSINESSES

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and the Census held a hearing entitled “Locking Your Cyber Front Door—The Challenges Facing Home Users and Small Businesses.” Testimony was heard from Amit Yoran, Director, National Cyber Security Division, Department of Homeland Security; J. Howard Beales III, Director, Bureau of Consumer Protection, FTC; Cheryl A. Mills, Associate Administrator, Entrepreneurial Development, SBA; Ed Roback, Chief, Computer Security Division, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

U.S. INITIATIVES—NATO’S SUMMIT

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Europe held a hearing on U.S. Initiatives at NATO’s Istanbul Summit. Testimony was heard from Ian J. Brzezinski, Deputy Assistant Secretary, European and NATO Affairs, Department of Defense; and Robert A. Bradtke, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, Department of State.

U.S.-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS FUTURE

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on the Middle East and Central Asia held a hearing on The Future of U.S.-Egyptian Relations. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of State: Rose Likins, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs; David Satterfield, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs; and James Kunder, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Asia and the Near East, U.S. Agency for International Development.

VISA WAIVER PROGRAM—SCREENING POTENTIAL TERRORISTS

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on International Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Human Rights held a hearing on The Visa Waiver Program and the Screening of Potential Terrorists. Testimony was heard from Robert Jackstra, Executive Director, Border Security and Facilitation, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security; Catherine Barry, Managing Director, Office of Visa Services, Department of State; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Ordered reported, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 218, Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2003; and H.R. 3266, Faster and Smarter Funding for First Responders Act of 2003.

CREATE OFFICE OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER—VIRGIN ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

Committee on Resources: Held a hearing on H.R. 3589, To create the Office of Chief Financial Officer of the Government of the Virgin Islands. Testimony was heard from Delegate Norton; David Cohen, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Insular Affairs, Department of the Interior; the following officials of the Virgin Islands: Charles W. Turnbull, Governor; David A. Jones, Senate President; and Ronald E. Russell, Senator; and a public witness.

OVERSIGHT—FISHERY DATA COLLECTION PROGRAMS IMPORTANCE

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans held an oversight hearing on The Importance of Fishery Data Collection Programs. Testimony was heard from Michael Sissenwine, Director, Scientific Programs and Chief Scientific Advisor, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Water and Power approved for full Committee action, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 3334, Riverside-Corona Feeder Authorization Act; H.R. 3597, To authorize the Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Reclamation, to conduct a feasibility study on the Alder Creek water storage and conservation project in El Dorado County, California; and H.R. 4045, To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to prepare a feasibility study with respect to the Mokelumne River.

AMERICAN JOBS CREATIONS ACT OF 2004

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a vote of 9 to 3, a closed rule providing 1 hour of debate on H.R. 4520, American Jobs Creations Act of 2004, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means, as modified by the amendment printed in the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution, shall be considered as adopted. The rule waives all points of order against the bill, as amended, and against its consideration. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representatives Portman, Sandlin, Baird, McGovern, Bordallo, and Emanuel.

EXAMINE RULE X—ORGANIZATION OF COMMITTEES

Committee on Rules: Subcommittee on Technology and the House held a hearing to examine Rule X, the Organization of Committees, including its current legislative impact, arrangement, and effectiveness. Testimony was heard from Representatives Tom Davis of Virginia, Waxman, Cox, Turner of Texas, Boehner and Thomas.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Science: Ordered reported, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 3890, To reauthorize the Steel and Aluminum Energy Conservation and Technology Competitiveness Act of 1988; and H.R. 4516, Department of Energy High-End Computing Revitalization Act of 2004; H.R. 4218, High-Performance Computing Revitalization Act of 2004; and H.R. 3598, Manufacturing Technology Competitiveness Act of 2004.

OVERSIGHT—PIPELINE SAFETY AND THE OFFICE OF PIPELINE SAFETY

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Highways, Transit, and Pipelines held an oversight hearing on Pipeline Safety and the Office of Pipeline Safety. Testimony was heard from Robert Chipkevich, Director, Office of Railroads, Pipeline, and Hazardous Materials Investigations, National Transportation Safety Board; the following officials of the Department of Transportation: Kenneth M. Mead, Inspector General; Samuel G. Bonasso, Deputy Administrator, Research and Special Programs Administration; and Stacey Gerard, Associate Administrator, Office of Pipeline Safety; and Katherine Siggerud, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues. GAO.

VETERANS LEGISLATION

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Benefits held a hearing on the following: H.R. 4032, Veterans Fiduciary Act of 2004; and the Veterans Self-Employment Act of 2004.

Testimony was heard from Jack McCoy, Director, Education Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans; and public witnesses.

U.S-AUSTRALIA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION

Committee on Ways and Means: Held a hearing on the Implementation of the United States-Australia Free Trade Agreement. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Office of the United States Trade Representative: Josette Sheeran Shiner, Deputy U.S. Trade Representative; and Allen Johnson, Chief Agricultural Negotiator; and public witnesses.

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FISCAL YEAR 2005

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session and ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 4548, Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005.

Joint Meetings**THE MIDDLE EAST**

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission): on Tuesday, June 15, Commission concluded a hearing to examine the advancing of democracy and human rights in the Middle East focusing on the possibility of using the 1975 Helsinki Final Act and related institutions as models for reform in the region, after receiving testimony from H.E. Natan Sharansky, Israeli Minister of Diaspora Affairs, Jerusalem; Ambassador Max M. Kampelman, Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, and Ambassador Mark Palmer, both of Freedom House, and Ambassador (retired) Craig Dunkerley, and Michael Yaffe, both of the National Defense University Near East-South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, all of Washington, D.C.; and Peter Jones, University of Toronto Munk Centre for International Studies, and Privy Council, Ottawa, Canada.

ANTI-SEMITISM IN EUROPE

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission): Commission concluded a hearing to examine the April 2003 Berlin Conference on Anti-Semitism and consider appropriate steps to following up on the conference, after receiving testimony from Representative Lantos; Natan Sharansky, Israeli Minister for Diaspora Affairs, and Head of the Israeli Delegation to the Berlin OSCE Conference on

Anti-Semitism, Jerusalem; Betty Ehrenberg, Institute for Public Affairs, and the Orthodox Union of Jewish Congregations, James S. Tisch, Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, and Mark Weitzman, Simon Wiesenthal Center, all of New York, New York; Paul Goldenberg, American Jewish Committee, Howell, New Jersey; Fred Zeidman, U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, Houston, Texas; and Jay Lefkowitz, Kirkland & Ellis, LLP, Stacy Burdett, Anti-Defamation League, Dan Mariaschin, B'nai B'rith International, and Shai Franklin, NCSJ, all of Washington, D.C.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D619)

S.J. Res. 28, recognizing the 60th anniversary of the Allied landing at Normandy during World War II. Signed on June 15, 2004. (Public Law 108-236)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2004

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: business meeting to mark up proposed legislation making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, 2 p.m., SD-106.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: business meeting to consider S. 894, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 230th Anniversary of the United States Marine Corps, and to support construction of the Marine Corps Heritage Center; S. 976, to provide for the issuance of a coin to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown settlement; and the nomination of Alan Greenspan, of New York, to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; to be followed by a hearing to examine the regulation of the bond markets, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine measures to enhance border security, 9:30 a.m., SR-253.

Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Space, to hold hearings to examine the final report on the President's Commission on Implementation of U.S. Space Exploration Policy, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the Environmental Management Program of the Department of Energy and issues associated with accelerated cleanup, 10 a.m., SD-366.

Subcommittee on Water and Power: to hold hearings to examine S. 2513, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide financial assistance to the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water Authority for the planning, design, and construction of the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System; S. 2511, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to

conduct a feasibility study of a Chimayo water supply system, to provide for the planning, design, and construction of a water supply, reclamation, and filtration facility for Espanola, New Mexico; S. 2508, to redesignate the Ridges Basin Reservoir, Colorado, as Lake Nighthorse; S. 2460, to provide assistance to the State of New Mexico for the development of comprehensive State water plans; and S. 1211, to further the purposes of title XVI of the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992, the "Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act", by directing the Secretary of the Interior to undertake a demonstration program for water reclamation in the Tularosa Basin of New Mexico, 2:30 p.m., SD-366.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime (the "Cybercrime Convention" or the "Convention"), which was signed by the United States on November 23, 2001 (Treaty Doc. 108-11), United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (the "Convention"), as well as two supplementary protocols: (1) the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and (2) the Protocol Against Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, which were adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on November 15, 2000. The Convention and Protocols were signed by the United States on December 13, 2000, at Palermo, Italy (Treaty Doc. 108-16), Inter-American Convention Against Terrorism ("Convention") Adopted at the Thirty-second Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States ("OAS") Meeting in Bridgetown, Barbados, and signed by thirty countries, including the United States, on June 3, 2002 (Treaty Doc. 107-18), and Protocol of Amendment to the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures done at Brussels on June 26, 1999 (Treaty Doc. 108-6), 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Anne W. Patterson, of Virginia, to be Deputy Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the rank and status of Ambassador, and the Deputy Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations, and to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, and James B. Cunningham, of Pennsylvania, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Vienna Office of the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador, and to be Representative of the United States of America to the International Atomic Energy Agency, with the rank of Ambassador, 2 p.m., SD-419.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of John C. Danforth, of Missouri, to be U.S. Representative to the United Nations with the rank of Ambassador; and to be U.S. Representative in the Security Council of the United Nations; and to be U.S. Representative to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during his tenure of service as U.S. Representative to the United Nations, 3 p.m., SD-419.